



A look at the sub Navy of 2004

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A few healthy activities on Pearl Harbor

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Pacific Submarine Force envisions new era of warfare

JOC(SW/AW) David Rush
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

The events of 9/11 have had a major impact in the way the U.S. Navy operates. The impact of the global war on terrorism has changed everything, including submarine warfare.

In March 2003, at the outset of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), there were 12 U.S. Navy submarines and two British submarines directly involved. Four of the U.S. submarines were Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet assets. USS Cheyenne (SSN 773), homeported in Pearl Harbor, was the first U.S. warship to launch Tomahawks into Iraq.

According to Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan, commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), his submarines have to be ready anytime, anywhere. "We all wanted to get out there and do something to strike back at terrorism (following 9/11), but as President Bush has said repeatedly, 'Be ready.' The president also stated this conflict will be

very long. It's like running a marathon; you have to stay the distance. We have spent a lot of time since then working in areas of the world we haven't operated in for a long time. We need to be able to better understand the environment, and eventually over time, understand how terrorist networks operate so we can interdict them, not necessarily with submarines, but some military or national capability," Sullivan said.

Since the terrorist attacks, a new era of submarine warfare is evolving. "Particularly since 9/11, submarines have operated in places that they have not normally operated in," said Sullivan.

"The day of submarines operating on their own, similar to what I grew up with during the Cold War, is well in the past. Our future depends on the ability to operate in a joint environment. That means being able to operate and communicate with not just an Expeditionary Strike Group or Carrier Strike Group, but also to operate with Marines, the Army and



U.S. Navy photo
Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan, commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC).

of course, the Air Force - to do that you have to understand joint operations and your role.

"The submarine, in general, plays a significant role in the beginning of a conflict, primarily

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Navy seeks to help preserve Kauai farmlands

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

The Navy has asked the state of Hawai'i to preserve land adjacent to Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands, Kauai, to be used for agriculture. According to Navy officials, the move would enable the state of Hawai'i to act now - before there is pressure to develop the land - to ensure the land continues to be used in ways that are compatible with base operations.

Rebecca Hommon, counsel for Navy Region Hawai'i, explained the importance of setting aside the 5,860 acres of land adjacent to PMRF. "Writers tell us that the Mana Plain has long been a place where food has been

produced, collected and harvested. I can't see why anyone would want to oppose the concept of protecting these lands from urbanization or development," she said. "PMRF and its operations provide a certain form of protection of these lands - the operations on PMRF are only brief, occasional disturbances. The rest of the time the entire plain is incredibly dark and quiet. Keeping this entire area as a refuge from urbanization is in everyone's interest," she added.

Navy officials emphasize that the Navy does not want to purchase the land. The state would retain full ownership of the land. The Navy's intent is only to ensure that the land adjacent

▼ See PRMF, A-2

Angels coming to Hawai'i



Photo by PHAN Mark Rebilas
The United States Navy's precision flight demonstration team "Blue Angels" perform during the Miramar Air Show in California. The Blue Angels announced that they will be coming to Hawai'i to perform at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i in Kaneohe Oct. 9 and 10.

Salvor trains at firefighting

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff writer

USS Salvor (ARS 52) conducted at sea firefighting training as part of its Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific rescue and assistance at sea training cycle requirements last week.

Salvor towed a small, former torpedo weapons retriever ship into the harbor. Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One and ATG MIDPAC set fires on the fantail and bridge.

Since Salvor is the only rescue and assistance ship in the middle Pacific, it makes exercises like this firefighting training even more important.

"Other ships can perform rescue and assistance, but we are the only ship with fire monitors and those are the big guns when it comes to fighting fires," said Ensign Andrius Burggren, Salvor damage control assistant. A fire monitor is a fixed, metal hose that is capable of thrusting 1,000 gallons of water per minute. The monitors are maneuvered by a

hand wheel with three ranges of motions - up, down and side-to-side. Also, with the hose being fixed, it allows for more water thrust and less manpower to operate.

"We are also more maneuverable than some of the bigger ships," said Buggren. "We can get closer. We have a bow thruster. That's why it's important that Salvor does this type of training."

With a crew of just over 100, exercises like at sea firefighting is an all-hands evolution.

"We are too small of a ship to have a designated firefighting team. Everyone is involved in these trainings," said Machinist Mate 2nd Class (SW/DV) Charles Parsons. "This type of training gives the whole crew the opportunity to demonstrate that we have the capability to handle fires at sea without supervision," said Parsons. "If a ship's on fire, we'll take care of it."

Although this is the first at sea firefighting drill for many in the ship's crew, they are no strangers to firefighting. The crew often conducts

general quarters and firefighting drills three or four times a week.

"Firefighting is important to every ship, but here it is one of our main missions," said Engineman Fireman Russell Estes. "It's dangerous work so we need to be at our best."

"This type of training is important because it gives us the skills to be ready for the real thing," said Estes. "It's scary on that ship, but when the real thing comes along - instead of freezing up because we've never seen the flames, felt the heat, or smelled and been engulfed by smoke - we can step back, relax and say, 'Okay, this is real, but I've been through this before and know how to resolve this problem.' It builds your confidence."

The at sea firefighting training was a success.

Salvor is scheduled for a debatching exercise today, which consists of rescuing a ship that has run aground, as part of their rescue and assistance at sea requirements and to help the crew with future deployments.

Trying 'Ice' can ruin your Navy career

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

The Uniform Code of Military Justice clearly states the Navy's policy on the wrongful use of controlled substances: zero tolerance.

The use of crystal methamphetamine, or "Ice," at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and throughout Hawai'i though, has become a growing concern that has prompted much discussion.

"One person using a drug other than what's prescribed is one too

"All it takes is one person to compromise a mission, to compromise someone else's safety or someone else's life..."

CTTCS(SW) James Harris
Drug and Alcohol Program

many," said Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Technical)(SW) James Harris, drug and alcohol program advisor at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

"Ice," which has been around for almost 100

years, is a white, odorless powder developed from its parent drug, amphetamine. "Ice" is similar to amphetamine in that it causes the user to have increased activity, loss of appetite and a greater sensa-

tion of comfort. However "Ice" has more prominent effects on the central nervous system.

"Meth," as it is also referred to, comes in various forms that users can smoke, orally ingest, snort or inject through needles. The stimulant is extremely addictive-creating violence, nervousness and confusion.

The problem in Hawai'i is growing each year. Crystal meth has become significantly more popular in the last 10 years. Consequently, Hawai'i has

▼ See ICE, A-3

Mess management specialists change rating name



Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
CSSA William Brown, seasons a dish at the Silver Dolphin Bistro.

Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

In a rating name change that better reflects their professional expertise, mess management specialists (MS) will now be known as culinary specialists (CS).

"The name change more appropriately describes the duties and mission of the rating, aligns the rating with today's commercial culinary profession, and enhances the rating's professional image," said Senior Chief Culinary

Specialist (CS) (SW) Joe Donellan, rating technical advisor and Supply Corps enlisted community manager.

"I think the changes are really going to help us when we decide to retire or transfer," said CS2 Farmon Childress at the Silver Dolphin Bistro. "It's culinary specialist, so now they actually know what kind of field we're in and what we're talking ... especially if you're going out to be a chef."

The rating's progression from cook to commissary

man, to mess management specialist, and finally to culinary specialist, is a natural one and in keeping with the Navy's tradition of defining a Sailor's occupation in modern terms.

CS2 Matthew Myers, aboard USS Bataan (LHD 5), believes the name change will have a positive effect when Sailors transition back to civilian life.

"We'll finally be able to compare our knowledge and training to the civilian world, which will allow an easier

transition into the culinary field," he said. "I really like it."

Aboard USNS Comfort (T-AH 20), SCCS (SW) Jack Slattery said he felt the change will "definitely help in enabling our civilian counterparts to better identify with our job as opposed to the term 'mess,' which is a contradiction in terms when you think about the sanitation standards we're expected to maintain."

"It will help the MS's as far as in the Navy and outside the Navy as well," said CS3 Casey Green at the Silver

Dolphin Bistro. "You say culinary specialist, they'll assume that this guy is cool, he got some experiences with some top notch type of food."

Personnel in the MS rating will be automatically converted to the CS rating, effective immediately with the release of NAVADMIN 012/04. Requests for conversion from Sailors or commands is not required.

The rating badge of crossed keys and quill superimposed upon an open ledger is being retained for culinary specialists.

PMRF: Navy base plays vital role

Continued from A-1

to PMRF continues to be used for agriculture.

As part of this move, the Navy wants to lease an additional 415 acres of land from the state in an area located between the present fence line and the highway. Officials note that this would allow the federal government to repair and maintain the drainage pumps and ditches that prevent the Mana Plain from flooding, benefiting both local farmers and the Navy. Because federal law prohibits the use of federal funds for maintaining infrastructure on land that is not leased or owned by the federal government, such a lease arrangement would be necessary in order for the Navy to use its funds lawfully to fix the pumps.

The leased area would also ensure that the Navy is in compliance with anti-terror-



U.S. Navy photo

An ariel view of PMRF, and adjacent farmlands, on Kauai.

ism requirements enacted after 9/11. Under the new guidelines, new military buildings must be set back from public roads. This small leased area would provide a buffer around PMRF. The Navy plans to construct a small building in this leased area that would allow

visitors to receive passes before driving on base.

The Pacific Missile Range Facility at Kauai has played an increasingly important role in U.S. security in recent years. It is the world's largest instrumented, multi-dimensional testing and training

range and the only range in the world where submarines, surface ships, aircraft and space vehicles can operate and be tracked simultaneously.

PMRF also plays an important role in Kauai's economy. The installation is Kauai's largest employer, with nearly 1,000 military, civilian and contract personnel. It has a \$130 million impact annually on the local economy and has the potential, officials say, to attract hundreds of millions of dollars in new investment in the coming years, creating many new high-paying jobs for Kauai residents. However, officials point out that future investment in PMRF is based on the assumption that its operations will not be impeded by new development around the base.

For more information about the PMRF Agriculture Preservation Initiative, visit the Navy Region Website at www.hawaii.navy.mil.

Chapel Pennant

New Year's resolution plus

**Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.)
C. K. McKenzie**

Naval Station Pearl Harbor

Well, we are again into a new year. For many of us, it is a time to make new resolutions. Perhaps our bathroom scale is telling us that we ate too much at holiday dinners and parties. Maybe we have developed a nagging cough due to cigarette smoking and this would be a good time to cut down and quit. Perhaps as we watch the credit card bills flow in, maybe this would be a great time to think about a budget.

Now, of course these are all fine and good. It is good for us to be disciplined in these and other ways. However, what happens when the weight is lost, the smoking has stopped and the major cravings have gone away, and the money is under control? What happens when these distractions are gone and maybe we are left with a sense of emptiness? How do we fill the void so that either we stay quit or we do not replace it with a worse habit?

Thomas Moore in his book "Care of the Soul" writes in the introduction: "The great malady of the twentieth century, implicated in all our troubles and affecting us individually and socially, is 'loss of soul.'" He further writes, "When the soul is neglected, it doesn't go away;

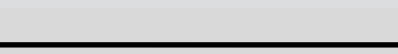
terest in it."

So, what is the soul? It is difficult to explain, though we probably know it intuitively. According to Moore, soul is a quality and dimension of experiencing life and ourselves. It has to do with depth, value, relatedness, heart and personal substance.

Caring for our souls is a matter of paying attention to the things around us and becoming more sensitive to the importance of our home, our work, our daily schedule and even closer attention to what we wear and how we act. Caring for the soul isn't about solving problems and therapy; it isn't an ego project. It is a matter of reflecting on the way your life has taken shape. It is finding meaning in the "everydayness" of life and discovering who we are in a deeper way. We become responsible for organizing and shaping our lives for the good of the soul. Even failure can be used to connect with the soul.

We can nourish our souls by doing activities like going to the beach, gardening and viewing artwork. Spending quality time with friends and family also can nourish the soul. Regular worship attendance is critical for tending the soul. The most important reason is that it is easy to focus our minds on the material rather than the spiritual world. We need to remain aware of spiritual ideas and values.

So, as you make and work toward fulfilling your New Year's resolutions, consider nurturing your soul as part of your plan. Hopefully, you will not need to make the same resolutions next year.



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Hawaii
Navy News

Navy Web-based system helps Sailors track ‘PRT’

Ingrid Mueller

Navy MWR Communications Group Public Affairs

The key to the Navy's physical readiness program is recognizing that "total fitness" is a crucial element of mission performance. Recent upgrades to the Physical Readiness Information Management System (PRIMS), including enhanced "read only" access and reporting procedures, help Navy commands get a true picture of their Sailors' overall fitness, while significantly reducing the administrative workload required to administer the physical readiness program.

"The refinements we are making to PRIMS support the Navy's goal of developing a culture of fitness," said Lt. Cmdr. Mike Criqui, physical readiness program manager, Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Division, Navy Personnel Command, Millington, Tenn. "Commanding officers, executive officers and command master chiefs can now be assigned read-only access to all the physical readiness program records within their command, which will enable them to get a better look at the overall fitness of their Sailors." Read-only access is available through the command fitness leader (CFL).

All commands are required to report their physical fitness assessment (PFA) data via PRIMS no later than 30 days after conducting the PFA, in accordance with guidelines established in the Navy's Physical Readiness Program instruction, OP-NAVINST 6110.1G. When using the Web-based PRIMS, there is no need to provide any additional reports to Navy Personnel Command on command participation in PFAs.

"The purpose of PRIMS is to make the whole administration of the physical readiness program easier for the command and for the individual," explained Criqui. "PRIMS came on line Oct. 1, 2002 and has significantly reduced the command level administrative workload required to administer the physical readiness program. We estimate that PRIMS has reduced record management time by about 30 percent."

CFLs can use PRIMS to update individual records, receive and transfer members' records, and create specialized reports for their command. Other features of the system include risk controls, PFA tracking, administrative warnings and fitness enhancement program (FEP) enrollment. Using PRIMS means no more "stubby pencils" for CFLs, as the system performs the calculations for body fat measurement and computes the overall physical readiness test performance score. Step-by-step instructions for this user-friendly system are available to the CFL through the PRIMS Web site, www.mwr.navy.mil/prims.

"PRIMS also provides the CFL with checks and balances to ensure risk control measures are in

place prior to conducting the physical readiness test," added Criqui. "The system tracks medical screenings and waivers, and will print a list of individuals who are cleared to participate in the physical readiness test, along with a list of those who are not cleared to participate."

Sailors can view their records at any time through the Navy MWR PRIMS Web site at <https://prims.persnet.navy.mil/>, by using the social security number as the log-in identification and the BUPERS Online (BOL) password as a password. Sailors can obtain a BOL password by visiting the BOL Web site at www.bol.navy.mil/default.asp.

"I encourage each individual to check their record on PRIMS after the PFA has been recorded to make sure it's correct. That way, any discrepancies can be resolved at the command level," said Criqui.

As part of the checks and balances built into the system, CFLs can only make changes to the records of members assigned to their command. In addition, after six months of PFA completion, record changes can only be made by Navy Personnel Command, which requires a letter from the individual's commanding officer granting authorization to make the changes.

"A gaining command cannot edit a record that was input by a previous command, even if it was within six months. You can only edit records from your own UIC (unit identification code)," said Criqui. "

ICE: Drug use in Navy is growing concern

Continued from A-1

the nation's highest rate of adults who have tried "Ice," and it has replaced alcohol as the primary substance used by Hawai'i adults served by treatment programs according to the Department of Health. Nationwide, 14 percent of sentenced traffickers were involved with methamphetamines. In Hawai'i the rate was 51 percent as indicated by the U.S. Attorney's Office. According to the Honolulu Medical Examiner's Office, deaths attributed to crystal methamphetamine have almost doubled in two years. In the Navy, the concern is much higher.

"All it takes is one person to compromise a mission, to compromise someone else's safety or somebody else's life," said Harris.

There are many myths about drug use in the Navy and Sailors don't realize the extent to which they are jeopardizing their careers and health. The Navy Drug Screening Laboratory tests every

sample submitted from Navy commands.

"Every sample gets tested," said Harris. "And when a sample is found to...reach a threshold, to determine to be positive, it's tested again to be verified."

The Navy Drug Screening Laboratory uses the most state-of-the-art equipment available to produce scientifically accurate results.

The Navy conducts random tests without warning and with no set pattern, allowing some Sailors to be tested multiple times in one month. If a Sailor is discharged from the Navy for drug abuse, all benefits are lost including the Montgomery G.I. bill and Federal College Fund benefits.

The health effects are also great for "Ice." Prolonged exposure can result in toxic effects on the brain. Furthermore, there are no known pharmacological treatments for the drug.

"It's a psychotic drug that reprograms your brain," said Harris. "There's no

medicine that can help someone out with this. You have to go through a long period of counseling to undue what you've gone through with (this) drug."

When someone stops using methamphetamines, they must deal with depression, anxiety, fatigue, paranoia, aggression and an intense craving for the drug making it difficult to handle.

The problem is continuing to make headlines in Hawai'i and much debate has subsequently followed. However the Navy still holds true to its "zero tolerance" policy.

"You wear a uniform as a member of the United States Armed Forces. You are a professional. Drug use, other than prescription drug use, violates the law. Accountability is the operative word," said Harris.

Harris also said that anyone who might know about someone using "Ice" or any other drug should report it immediately. Your efforts might not only save the life of that individual, but the lives of your other shipmates as well.

President praises military for taking on the ‘hardest duty’

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

President Bush praised service members around the world for their sacrifices to defend America during his State of the Union address last Tuesday.

He said that the men and women of the American armed forces "have taken the hardest duty" in the war on terror. He added that hundreds of thousands of U.S. service members are based around the world protecting America.

"We've seen their skill and their courage in armored

charges, and midnight raids and lonely hours on faithful watch," Bush said at the U.S. Capitol. "We have seen the joy when they return, and felt the sorrow when one is lost."

The president said he had a special message for the many Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines listening to the speech. "I want you and your families to know America is proud of you," he pointed out. "And my administration and this Congress will give you the resources you need to fight and win the war on terror."

Senators, House members,

Cabinet secretaries – everyone in the House of Representatives chamber rose and gave a sustained standing ovation in response.

Bush said that America is a nation with a mission that comes from Americans' most basic beliefs. "We have no desire to dominate, no ambitions of empire," he said. "Our aim is a democratic peace – a peace founded upon the dignity and rights of every man and woman. America acts in this cause with friends and allies at our side, yet we understand our special calling: This great

republic will lead the cause of freedom."



Photo courtesy of DefenseLink
President George W. Bush

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Navy announces first round of FY 2004 pilot projects

Naval Supply Systems Command Public Affairs

The Department of the Navy (DoN) eBusiness Operations Office has announced \$3.8 million in funding for its first portfolio of fiscal year 2004 eBusiness pilot projects.

Maintaining a strong fleet focus, pilots range from streamlining the fleet software approval and deployment cycle, to improved communication tools that enhance data accessibility and produce significant manpower efficiencies.

The lineup includes the following six pilots:

- Navy Net-centric Aircraft Maintenance Pilot Project: This Naval Air Systems Command pilot brings legacy maintenance databases, electronic maintenance manuals, and other resource information to technicians and supervisors at the point of maintenance through a wireless network. The pilot aims to resolve interoperability issues among different classes of interactive electronic technical manuals, which will decrease erroneous material expenditures and reduce training time.

- Speed to Capability Approval, Management and Planning Process (SCAMP): Sponsored by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command and the C4I and Space Program Executive Office, this pilot develops an automated, enterprise-wide decision support process to reduce the current approval process by 50 percent, resulting in quicker deployment of systems afloat. In addition, SCAMP assists users in product planning and management, which potentially could realize an estimated savings of \$20 million over five years.

- Navy Public Affairs Knowledge Management System (Navy PA KM): Navy PA KM will deploy an integrated suite of knowledge management and collaboration tools on the Web to provide public affairs officers (PAOs) around the globe with the capability to publish timely news updates to Navy leadership, Navy personnel and the public sector. The re-engineered business process will facilitate better collaboration among PAOs to provide products and resources to a larger customer base.

- Collaborative Energy Conservation and Fuel Status Board: Naval Sea Systems Command and Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet have jointly sponsored this pilot to automate the creation of ships' fuel consumption curves and a consolidated battle group fuel status display. This pilot leverages the capability of the Integrated Condition Assessment System to generate fuel status information, and provide audible and visual warnings when the propulsion plant is operating outside predetermined fuel-efficient tolerance levels. Potentially, this pilot could realize an annual savings of \$20 million in fuel cost avoidance and man-hour savings by reducing the manual processes for capturing battle group fuel status.

- Legacy System Modernization: The project's objective is to demonstrate the capability of automated software modernization tools as a cost-effective method available to functional area managers and central design activities to make legacy applications compliant with the Navy-Marine Corps Intranet (NM-

CI). The pilot will provide an automated, low-risk, and cost-effective approach for modernizing legacy system software. This will be accomplished by utilizing commercial translation software to convert legacy application code into modern, object-oriented, NMCI-compliant code.

- Software Configuration Management (SCM): This pilot targets the improvement of installed afloat software configuration management. Utilizing the Configuration Data Managers Database-Open Architecture, it will provide an authoritative, centralized repository for afloat tactical and non-tactical software configuration data to the fleet and ashore establishments, resulting in improved strike group interoperability and communications.

The DON eBusiness Operations Office helps Navy and Marine Corps e-business concepts become realities. Pilot submissions are evaluated continuously from Navy and Marine Corps commands. Ideas for pilot projects may be submitted to www.don-ebusiness.navsup.navy.mil.

Navy to christen new guided-missile destroyer Halsey

Special release from the Department of Defense

The newest Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, Halsey (DDG 97), will be christened Jan. 17 during a 10 a.m. CST ceremony at Northrop Grumman Ship Systems in Pascagoula, Miss.

Adm. William J. Fallon, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, will deliver the ceremony's principal address in concert with Haley Barbour, governor of Mississippi. Heidi Cook Halsey, Anne Halsey Smith and Alice "Missy" Spruance Talbot will serve as sponsors of the ship named for their grandfather. In the time-honored Navy tradition, they will break a bottle of champagne across the bow to formally christen Halsey.

Halsey honors U.S. Naval Academy graduate Adm. William F. Halsey Jr. (1882-1959). During World War I, Cmdr. Halsey was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions while in command of USS Benham (DD 397) and USS Shaw (DD 373) during convoy escort duties. Designated a naval aviator in 1935 at the age of 52, he took command of USS Saratoga (CV 3) from 1935 until 1937. In February 1942, then Vice Adm. Halsey, while serving as Commander, Carrier Division 2 aboard USS Enterprise (CV 6), led the first counter-strikes of World War II against the Japanese with carrier raids on the Gilbert and Marshall Islands. Later that year, his task force launched the famous "Doolittle Raid" against targets on the Japanese homeland.

Assigned as commander, South Pacific Force and South Pacific Area, Oct. 18, 1942, Halsey led the Navy, Marine Corps and Army forces that conquered the strategically important Solomon Islands. Subsequently as Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, his task forces consistently won hard fought victories during campaigns in the Philippines, Okinawa and other islands. Nicknamed "Bull," Halsey embodied his slogan, "Hit hard, hit fast, hit often." On Dec. 11, 1945, he became the fourth officer to hold the rank of fleet admiral. One previous ship has been named Halsey (1963-1994), which earned eight battle stars for Vietnam Service in addition to a Navy Unit Commendation and a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and participated in contingency operations in Korean waters (1969-1971) and in the Indian Ocean (1980).

Halsey is the 47th of 62 planned Arleigh Burke-class destroyers currently authorized by Congress. This highly-capable, multi-mission ship can conduct a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis management, to sea control and power projection, in support of the national military strategy. Halsey will be capable of fighting air, surface and subsurface battles simultaneously. The ship contains myriad offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime defense needs well into the 21st century.

Navy News asks: *What is your favorite 'liberty' spot on Oahu ?*



OSSN Damien Cormier
USS Crommelin (FFG 37)

I like Waikiki because it's relaxing.



GSMFA Benji Cuen
USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

I like Waikiki at night. There's lots to do and you can meet a lot of people.



CS2(SW) Mateo Andaya
Pearl Harbor Naval Brig

Waikiki Beach is my favorite spot because that's where everyone is at.



GSM3 Hugo Cifuentes
USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

North Shore on the weekends is a really good time. You can just sit on the beach or get out there and enjoy the waves, especially right now.



SH1(SW) Rusty Gatchalian
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

I like the beach by Hickam. I'm a simple guy.

Pacific Fleet submariners: Ready for the new year

JO3 Corwin Colbert
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Almost a year has gone by since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) began in March 2003. The silent service wasn't so silent when the undersea warriors began the first strikes into Iraq.

Submariners train all year preparing for any contingency; however, few actually execute a mission as unique as shooting Tomahawks.

Four U.S. Pacific Fleet submariners, USS Key West (SSN 722), USS Columbia (SSN 771), USS Louisville (SSN 724) and USS Cheyenne (SSN 773), participated in strike missions during the initial phase of OIF.

USS Key West also participated in the strike mission of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

According to the commodore of Submarine Squadron Three, Capt. William Toti, the Navy has improved the effectiveness and accuracy of training since submarine operations in OEF.

"OEF was a 'come as you are' type of fight. It was a month after the Sept. 11 attacks and whoever was there near Afghanistan fought with what they had. We learned a lot from OEF so when OIF came around, we were able to improve our war-fighting capabilities and strategies," said Toti. "When we went into Operation Iraqi Freedom, we were more prepared for fighting the kind of war we knew we were going to fight."

Toti said the success of the four submarines' missions contributed to training, learning and strategy. "There is a process for launching or firing missiles when the time comes. There isn't just a push button solution. When the command to strike arises, there are many steps and actions that take place. These steps are important and vital to effective and



Photo by JO3 Corwin Colbert

TM2(SS) Huri Moreno conducts a visual inspection of torpedo tube number one after conducting water slug launches earlier in the day on board USS Louisville (SSN 724). USS Louisville was one of four U.S. Pacific Fleet submarines that launched Tomahawks into Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

successful strikes."

According to Chief Fire Control Technician Henry Eldred of USS Key West, "When the message to strike came in, the captain called over the 1MC 'strike one, strike one.' The first to respond was the strike party. The strike party includes the fire control technicians in the attack center, the torpedoman's mates and a few other personnel. Everyone goes to their designated battle stations. Then we have to figure out what we are

tasked with. We have to go over the message, verify it and make sure there are no errors. Then we let the TMs know the load plan," said Eldred.

Eldred said the FTs do the planning along with the weapons officer. "We plan using our different fire control systems," said Eldred. "Everything runs smoothly because we practice the drills every day," he said.

While the planning is being developed above, the TMs are

preparing the weapons for launch below in the torpedo room.

"As soon as we know what type of weapons we need to load, we start making arrangements. We make sure our systems are operational and ready to load and be reloaded," said Torpedoman's Mate 3rd Class Christopher Costa. "We use hydraulics to load the Tomahawks into the torpedo tubes. Then we spin the tubes. According to Chief Torpedoman's Mate Lorne Miller, weapons department chief on USS Key West, spinning the tubes means aligning the gyrocompass inside the weapon.

Once everything is working properly, the countdown begins. "Normally the countdown starts at 15 minutes," said Miller. "Then the order to shoot is given. We have 25 seconds to get the Tomahawk fired. Then we get ready for the next shoot if we have to," he said.

Just like they practice in their constant training, there was a great deal of teamwork and responsibility needed to perform these tasks correctly. Though the challenges were obvious, the crews of the four shooters were proud to be a part of history.

"The morale of these Sailors were high, showing their true professionalism and patriotism," Toti noted.

Toti said even though the shooters were the ones in the spotlight, it was also due to the efforts of many other U.S. Pacific Fleet submariners. Scouting the areas of operations and executing the tasks the four shooters weren't able to do helped in the overall success.

"The flawlessness of the missions during OIF is testament to the hard work of the crews of the submarines and the staff of the squadrons," said Toti.

As for the term "silent service," Toti concluded, "You may not see us, but we are there."

ATG cuts ribbon for 'ship in a box'

SM1(SW/AW) Johnathon Young
ATGMIDPAC Pearl Harbor

The Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATGMIDPAC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new Anti-Terrorism Force Protection (ATFP) Center Jan. 23 on Ford Island.

The ceremony signifies the end of a two-year long effort for ATFP personnel to obtain an indoor location to facilitate training in such areas as basic sentry watch standing in the Navy and working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. The new training facility is the first in the Navy to be indoors.

The goals of the ATFP program focus on bringing realism to a teaching and exercise environment, and promoting understanding and ultimately, survivability for students who pass through the course. Lt. Cesar Morales, the ATFP officer, has been a driving force to centralize the training into one site. "This will now serve as 'one stop shopping for anti terrorism,'" said Morales.

With a 'build-upon' style, the four to five courses teach individual and team tactics, weapons handling and techniques; and previously were facilitated at various locations on Ford Island wherever space could be found. With new courses and new equipment came the need for one large space. The 'ship in a box,' as it is called, will not be plagued with down time due to inclement weather that hamper outside training facilities in Japan, Everett, Wash., and soon in San Diego. In its new location, the intensity level of training can be elevated in scenarios such as room entries, taking back the ship, repelling and force-on-force with different kinds of ammunition.

Although mostly defensive tactics are taught, the offensive techniques are direct and a 'in your face' style. Finally, the students can use the different learning tools, such as the nine-millimeter and M16 fire arms used to stand watch, and can work in a live fire environment.

These guns will use simulated ammunition called 'simunition marking' cartridges, opposed to the coated paintballs used in the past. The simunitions, which are more cost effective, bring the other aspect ... pain.

"Yes, they hurt more," said Chief Master-at-Arms(SW) Pamela Medearis. "Does it make it real? Yes."

Medearis, a recent graduate of the simunition course, continued, "The ATFP are high-risk courses designed to make us a hard target."

The building on Ford Island serving as the site of the new ATFP center, served as a WWII seaplane hangar and has been relatively empty for 20 years.

"We offer courses that are not available to the Navy anywhere else but here; courses we developed for the Navy," said Chief Gunner's Mate Robert Powers, the ATFP lead instructor. Morales added, "We have been pushing for realism in training."

Express unaccompanied baggage now available

Naval Supply Systems Command Public Affairs

Sailors on permanent change of station (PCS) or temporary duty orders can ship unaccompanied baggage to new duty stations, according to the Navy Family Services Division of the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP).

Sailors can have unaccompanied baggage shipped by express services to new duty stations in three-to-seven days in the continental United States and in 10-to-14 days overseas. To qualify, Sailors must be on permanent change of station (PCS) or temporary duty orders and must have a legitimate need, such as a short reporting date to a deploying ship or a PCS without authorized leave in between.

The program covers items of necessity, such as clothing, cooking and eating utensils, small appliances, etc. Furniture is not included in this program.

Sailors who want more information about express shipment of unaccompanied baggage should contact their local personal property office, check NAVSUP's Web site at www.navsup.navy.mil, or contact the NAVSUP household goods helpline at 1-800-444-7789.

Submarine officer recognized by Society of Professional Hispanic Engineers

Commander, Submarine Group NINE Public Affairs

The Society of Professional Hispanic Engineers (SHPE) has awarded Lt. Cmdr. Eduardo Fernandez with the Hispanic in Technology Government Award for 2003.

SHPE is an organization with a history of service, promoting the development of Hispanics in engineering, science and other technical professions to achieve educational excellence, economic opportunity and social equity. SHPE was founded in Los Angeles, Calif. in 1974 by a group of engineers employed by the city of Los Angeles. Their objective was to form a national organization of professional engineers to serve as role models in the Hispanic community.

Fernandez is the executive officer of USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730) blue crew. According to a congratulatory message sent by Vice Adm. G.L. Hoewing, Chief of Naval Personnel, "The Navy can feel proud that this officer was selected from such keen competition."

“ Awards such as this are important to the Hispanic community... ”

Lt. Cmdr. Eduardo Fernandez
USS Henry (SSBN 730)

"In my 14 years of naval service, this is my first recognition for an award of this type," explained Fernandez. "I believe awards such as this are important to the Hispanic community as they provide positive role models to young, impressionable students in the Hispanic community and, also, as positive examples to parents of the type of accomplishments their children are capable of achieving."

Fernandez was unable to attend the recent awards presentation at the SHPE Annual Conference in Chicago, but his parents attended and accepted the award on his behalf.

Pearl Harbor recognizes Martin Luther King day

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

These words echoed through Sharkey Theater as Naval Station Pearl Harbor celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 15.

Sailors and family members gathered to observe the annual commemoration whose theme this year is, "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off"

The ceremony began with an introduction by Command Master Chief David Lajoie followed by the singing of the national anthem by Rochelle Harris-Dixon, Navy family member.

Chaplain (Lt.) Tiffany Combs then gave a prayer emphasizing the importance of the holiday.

Capt. Ronald R. Cox, chief of staff, Navy Region Hawai'i and commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, presented opening remarks



Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

CS2(SCW) Tanya Sylvester reads a biography of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at a special service at Sharkey Theater Jan. 15.

reinforcing Dr. King's influences in the military.

"Women and men in the armed forces, as much as anyone in America, understands Dr. King's devotion to duty...a man ready to give his life for his fellow Americans," said Cox.

Culinary Specialist 2nd Class(SCW) Tanya Sylvester provided the audience with a brief biography and back-

ground of Dr. King, highlighting personal achievements and memorable speeches by Dr. King.

"It was much needed for us to sit back and reflect on all the accomplishments that Dr. King did," said Culinary Specialist 1st Class Mary Trice, temporary processing unit, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Operation Specialist 2nd Class(SW/AW) Kristie Wilson followed with a poem entitled "Dr. King."

Lt. Cmdr. Calvin Law, officer in charge of Naval Brig Pearl Harbor, then took the stage as the guest speaker, garnering respect, admiration and an eventual standing ovation for his speech.

His speech focused on Dr. King's involvement almost 40 years ago and how it is still relevant now.

"...That brings us to today, 36 years later with that same dream before us, that same truth - that it matters not what our race, color, creed, the various rights, positions, or titles that we all hold. But what matters most is when we see ourselves and others in the light of equality, when we

recognize that all men were created equal," said Law.

Law also explained how Dr. King's fight for equality resembles the same values present in the military.

"He (King) possessed an undying commitment to see his dream and hope of others come to pass. These are the same principles that we all vowed as service men and women to uphold: honor, courage and commitment," said Law.

Senior Chief Petty Officer James Harris, equal opportunity advisor for Naval Station Pearl Harbor, hopes that next year's commemoration will attract an even larger and broader audience.

"I hope that the message gets out to more people that the commemoration and celebration of the birth of Dr. King is not an event about African-Americans. It is an event for all Americans, because that's what he stood for and that's what he fought for," said Harris.

This year marks the 75th birthday of Dr. King and the 18th anniversary of the national holiday.

RPs have been helping others for 25 years

JO3 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

The religious program specialist rate celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary Jan. 15. The silver anniversary celebration was held at the Naval Station Pearl Harbor command chapel to commemorate the event.

The rate was introduced to the Navy on Jan. 15, 1979 with 160 men and women to provide support to Navy chaplains.

One of those 160 men and women was Religious Program Specialist Master Chief of Commander Marine Forces Pacific (SW/FMF) Cindy Blankenship who first joined the Navy as a yeoman in 1977.

"While I was working as a yeoman, I submitted my name to be chosen as an RP, and was," said Blankenship. "We've been

around 25 years and that's really something worth celebrating. It's a milestone for us. I've seen the RP rate go from 160 people to approximately 900, from just working in chapels to being assigned to Marines, squadrons and ships. We've come a long way."

The RP rate is a place for troubled service members to turn to in times of crisis.

"If someone calls or comes in with thoughts of suicide or marriage problems - things of that nature - we are trained to calm them down and refer them to get the help and assistance they need," said Blankenship.

Over the years, the RP rate has developed a close relationship with the chaplains.

"They (RPs) have come to understand the uniqueness of the Chaplain Corps, the

needs of the Chaplain Corps, and have grown in their ability to augment, supplement and support those needs," said Command Chaplain Pearl Harbor Chapel Commander Patrick McCormick "Their ability and specialty has developed and we recognized that this is not a job that just anyone can do. It is a commitment to really understand the needs of those you mean to serve," McCormick continued.

For many RPs, the rate is a special one because of the opportunity it gives to work with so many different people.

"We work with volunteers, with family members who are faced with upcoming deployments, chaplains and their congregation," said RP3 Nino Miranda from 1st Battalion Twelve Marines. "We also have a close working relationship with God, so of course we need to be role models."

Pacific Submarine Force commander explains new plans

Continued from A-1

with battlespace preparation. It provides situational awareness for the joint task force commander," Sullivan added.

According to Sullivan, the presence of a submarine, or several submarines, still sends a very loud signal to potential adversaries. "The submarine's ability to reposition rapidly with nuclear propulsion and to arrive on scene in a covert fashion is extremely important. To do it covertly in a non-provocative posture, or in a provocative posture, that's a powerful tool. As we advance the levels of warfare, the ability to maintain undersea supremacy becomes very important. It's one area in which our country enjoys a large advantage and it's incumbent on us to keep that advantage," said Sullivan.

"We often think of deterrence as nuclear deterrence, which our submarines played a significant role in for 40 years. But if you can deter any other kind of aggression where a shot is not fired, it's still a very powerful instrument of national policy," added Sullivan.

As the environment in which the submarines operate shifts, those going into harm's way must know how to do it effectively, safely and with the right equipment. Sullivan attributes this success to effective training, new technology and good old-fashioned experience. "The ability to operate in a littoral environment is extremely important. It's a challenge and it tends to be more difficult because of limited depth and the likelihood that the area might be crowded with surface shipping.

"The acoustics are more complicated because of the effects of temperature, salinity and effects on the bottom. It's a

dramatically more difficult environment, but over the last 10 years we have made significant advances to be able to do that. We are modernizing our periscopes so we can have better range capabilities, our fire control systems so we can track efficiently multiple contacts in order to provide situational awareness, and sonar systems that can provide immediate ranging," said Sullivan.

As the threat of potential competitor nations' diesel submarines and other sea and land-based adversaries multiply, the ability of the submarine force to respond becomes even more essential in reducing or eliminating such potential threats to military and commercial assets.

According to Sullivan, submarines have to be there and 'online.'

"It's clear that to be able to communicate on a network and stay connected is extremely important. I've heard the analogy that the Cold War was like a football game — you huddle up, try a play. If it worked, great, you scored a touchdown. If it didn't, you would huddle up and try it again. The environment we're in today you have to be more agile. It's almost like a soccer game. You have to know what the other players are doing. The game is constantly in motion," explained Sullivan.

Monitoring and making the right move at the right time is something that newly-installed technology will help submariners do now, and in the future.

"That's where you see the advancements with the modernizations from commercial off-the-shelf technology (COTS). The equipment costs about one-tenth what the legacy systems cost, and gives you much more powerful computers that you can update every three to

four years," said Sullivan.

As the need for new technology has increased, the applications have spanned a broad range within the submarine force. "There's been a lot of advancement in communications, with the high-data rate antennae, updates in the radio room, sonar, and new fire control systems - most recently with the BYG-1, which is on USS Columbus and USS Tucson, in which the software can be changed rapidly based on changes we learn from operating," said Sullivan.

"We now have a fairly significant pool of submarines that have been modernized to the point that we can take advantage of this technology. COTS is not a panacea - you have to be committed to updating the software on a regular basis. The goal is once per year, and you have to be willing to update the hardware every three years."

Sullivan believes that this program is a long-term union between evolving technology and crew training. "You also have to keep up with your trainers. The submarine force, more than any part of the Navy, is wedded to their shore-based trainers because of the ability to put the students in different scenarios that you couldn't allow to occur at sea. Once you start down that path, you have to continually make the investments," said Sullivan.

No one can say exactly when and

where the next operation will take place, but as far as Sullivan is concerned, the attack submarines of the Pacific fleet will be there. "No matter what the conflict will be, I believe the submarine will

play a significant role in battlespace preparation prior to hostilities. We have the endurance, the flexibility and the ability to be there when needed," said Sullivan.

Due to their clandestine capabilities, Navy SEALs and other service's special operations forces have become an integral part of

joint warfare. The submarine can get the teams to insertion points undetected, where surveillance can be conducted for the joint task force commander. At his beck and call is a strike force with rapid response and real-time connectivity. That strike force includes attack submarines.

Sullivan believes this integration of the submarine force with joint task forces communicating in real-time will help to fill the gap in rapid response warfare.

"The submarine is an extremely capable instrument of military power, with its endurance, flexibility, utility, and the ability to stay on station for a long period of time. They can also adapt quickly to emerging situations. The list of attributes is very important for the world we live in and in fighting the global war on terrorism," said Sullivan.

“ No matter what the conflict will be, I believe the submarine will play a significant role...”

Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan
commander Submarine Force,
U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC)

Improvements to training streamline Navy boot camp

JOC Rhonda Burke

Naval Station Great Lakes Public Affairs

Improvements made to the Navy's basic military training curriculum for enlisted Sailors will allow the training to be delivered in 60 days vice the current 63-day cycle.

The curriculum changes were recommended after extensive study of the current training processes by the staffs of the Recruit Training Command (RTC), Naval Service Training Command, and Naval Education and Training Command, who are the Navy's top trainers and curriculum architects.

"We are confident that we can provide the high quality, basically trained Sea Warrior that the fleet requires in a 60-day curriculum cycle," said Rear Adm. Ann E. Rondeau, commander, Naval Service Training Command, who is responsible for 98 percent of the Navy's accessions training programs for both officer and enlisted personnel.

This decision was based on a thorough review of the curriculum, including improvements that have resulted in increased training opportunities for recruits. Additionally, infrastructure improvements to RTC are creating a more training-centric campus that eliminates unnecessary marching and waiting time, and allows an opportunity to recoup some training hours while increasing the quality of the training.

"In addition to our responsibility to recruits to effectively prepare them for the fleet, we also have a responsibility to continually re-evaluate our processes, to ensure they are the most efficient and cost effective possible," Rondeau said. "This decision is both good for the Navy and our Sailors, as well as for the American taxpayers."

The time savings will be accomplished without a reduction in training curriculum from the current boot camp model. In fact, the curriculum will actually be expanded based on recommendations from the board of advisors (BOA), a group of 15 fleet and force master chiefs who evaluate the basic military training curriculum on a semi-annual basis. This change has the full support of the BOA and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry Scott, the Navy's top enlisted Sailor, and it has been approved by the Navy's chief learning officer, Vice Adm. Alfred Harms, commander, Naval Education and Training Command.

"This decision has been made with careful debate and thought by the top enlisted leaders in today's Navy, and we are confident that it is the right course for the future and, most importantly, for our Sailors," said Force Master Chief Michael McCalip of Naval Education and Training Command, who chairs the BOA.



A Recruit Division Commander helps a recruit at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Improvements to the Navy's basic military training are expected to produce better trained Sailors.

Much of the time savings, approximately 60 training hours, has resulted from the elimination of service week, a week in which recruits routinely worked in galleys, administrative spaces and various grounds-keeping duties for a five-day period. This portion of boot camp was eliminated from the curriculum in October 2003, based on the recommendations of the BOA. These training hours have been refocused to include additional time for live fire weapons training, computer training, swim remediation, mentoring, and special medical and dental screening. Weight training will soon be added to the physical training curriculum as well. Additionally, more than 45 training hours are projected to be

recouped through the elimination of transit time, as the new self-contained barracks facilities are completed as part of a 10-year recapitalization program for Recruit Training Command. The new barracks facilities contain classrooms and galleys for meals, eliminating the need for recruits to transit between central classrooms and eating facilities during the day. Currently, two such barracks are in use, with two more projected to be in use by early spring 2004. In all, 15 self-contained barracks are being constructed at RTC.

The reduction in training days has also been made possible through improvements in teaching methodology used to deliver traditional Navy core curriculum lectures on topics such as seamanship and heritage. Through the use of technology in the new barracks classroom facilities, which are equipped with individual computer stations, the lectures being presented to today's recruits are much more visually impacting and interactive than the traditional lecture format in use for many years. This interactive lecture format has been shown to result in higher retention of the material presented, resulting in a better-trained basic Sailor. Some curriculum requirements will also be moved in the training schedule to afford a more efficient flow of training to the recruit.

The Navy estimates a cost savings of about \$20 million annually due to these changes, based on the daily cost of training recruits, as well as the manpower costs of the RTC staff. The Navy is expected to train 40,000 enlisted recruits in 2004, comparable to the number trained in 2003.

The first recruits to be trained under the new curriculum reported to boot camp in January 2004.

Official U.S. Navy file photo of a recruit at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Improvements to the Navy's basic military training are expected to produce better trained Sailors.